GRADE ONE

Here and Across the World

Standard 1-3: The student will demonstrate an understanding of how government functions and how government affects families.

1-3.3 Identify ways that government affects the daily lives of individuals and families in the United States, including providing public education, building roads and highways, and promoting personal freedom and opportunity for all.

Taxonomy Level: A 1 Remember /Factual Knowledge

Previous/future knowledge: In Kindergarten (K-1.1) students compared the daily lives of children and their families in the United States in the past with the daily lives of children and their families today. This, however, is the first time that students study the effect that government has on their lives. In second grade (2-2.3) students will summarize the roles of various workers in the community, including those who hold government jobs and explain the ways that local and state governments contribute to the federal system, including law enforcement and highway construction (2-3.3).

It is essential for students to know and identify government bodies and explain their general functions in communities across America. Students should understand how individuals and families depend on government services. Examples of government services include, but are not limited to, public education, building and maintenance of roads and highways, and state and national defense. It is essential that students know that our government generally promotes and protects values like freedom, equality, equity and others in one degree or another. Students should understand that many government services like public education are ways to promote these values.

It is not essential for students to know specific laws that govern individuals and families in the United States. Students do not need to know the specific agencies (i.e. the Department of Education) that provide these government services. It is not essential for students to understand how these services are funded or where that funding comes from. Students also do not need to understand the concept of a public good and why these types of services are not provided in a private market.

Assessment guidelines:

Appropriate assessment requires students to *identify* ways that government affects the daily lives of individuals and families; therefore, the primary focus of assessment should be for students to *recognize* the many different ways that government impacts individual lives. However, appropriate assessments should also require students to *recall* services provided by the government or; to *explain* ways that government affects the daily lives of individuals and families.